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Docket No. 51646/8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Neuwirth, R., et al.
Serial No. : 07/565,154
Filed : August 9, 1990
For : INTRAUTERINE CAUTERIZING APPARATUS AND METHOD
Group Art Unit : 339
Examiner : Hindenburg, M.
Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants would like to bring to the attention of the Patent Office the following patents which are listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449. A brief and concise explanation of the relevance of each item follows.

U.S. Patent No. 1,786,373 discloses improvements in "electrically heated therapeutical appliances", adapted to be inserted into the cavities of the body for the treatment of internal disorders. It is an object of the invention to provide a device by which the parts treated may be dilated by the introduction of a quantity of water or other suitable fluid so as to completely fill the cavity thereby forming intimate contact with every portion thereof.

U.S. Patent No. 1,951,904 discloses improvements in apparatus for circulating liquids, and more particularly it

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Date 8/9/91 Atty's Reg. # 35,804

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pertains to apparatus for use in circulating liquids and fluids for carrying out medical treatment.

U.S. Patent No. 2,078,686 discloses improvements in internal orifice thermal dilators and medicators and provides an electrically-heated deflatable and inflatable instrument for insertion in the orifice to be treated.

U.S. Patent No. 2,190,383 discloses a therapeutic apparatus used for the application of heat or cold for the destruction of pathogenic micro-organisms infecting an internal or external part of the human body or for other purposes such as improving the circulation and aiding the resolution of abscesses and other abnormal conditions and for improving the distribution and action of medicaments.

U.S. Patent No. 4,137,922 discloses a novel inflatable device for use in dilating various body cavities, and especially the human cervix, comprising an envelope member having an enlarged bulbous portion on one end, and a shield at the opposite end. The envelope member is inflatable with suitable gasses such as carbon dioxide, or liquids such as saline, distilled water and the like.

U.S. Patent No. 4,160,455 discloses a heater for heating fluid within a body cavity of an animal and comprises a container having inlet and outlet ports through which fluid in the cavity is passed by an external pump, and a heating element in the container to heat at least some of the fluid that passes through the container. Pumping can be achieved by a fluid filled pipe coupled to the container, either directly by or by way of a diaphragm and to a bellows-like arrangement for varying the pressure of the fluid.

U.S. Patent No. 4,676,258 discloses a device for radio-frequency hyperthermia having a first electrode adapted to be disposed in a tract organ of a living body. A second electrode is provided which is adapted to be disposed on an outer circumference of the living body such that the second electrode is opposed to the first electrode such that there is generated a spatially inhomogeneous electric field within the living body in cooperation with the first electrode so that a part of the living body near the first electrode may be heated more strongly than a part of the living body near the second electrode which serves to selectively heat a tumor or malignancy inside the living body by a non-invasive technique.

British Patent No. 287,772 discloses a therapeutic device for the treatment of uterine ailments comprising a hollow plug including a tapering body, an outer flange and a stem, a tube coupled to the stem of the plug and an expansible balloon for the reception of warm water, the said balloon being attached to the body of the plug and adapted to be folded and stowed within the said body. The device may have associated therewith tubes and an air pump as accessories, one of the vessels being adapted to receive the warm water whereby the balloon is expanded and the other vessel being adapted to receive the water from the balloon when it is required to replace the water or to collapse the balloon prior to its removal after treatment.

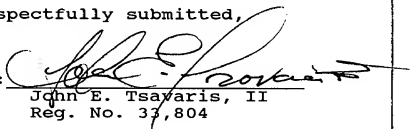
British Patent No. 315,971 discloses improvements in apparatus for hot and cold treatment of inner female genitals.

British Patent No. 317,604 discloses that improvements in anorectal dilators, particularly adapted to be used in connection with the treatment of those diseases and disorders of

the ano-rectal canal which are characterized by a spastic or
spincter muscle, and where it is desired to expand and dilate in
a definite matter and to a definite degree, the walls of said
anal canal.

Respectfully submitted,

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